GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2106
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGES
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN;T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone exchanges set up in rural and backward areas of the country particularly in Kerala during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any target was fixed for setting up new telephone exchanges n the said areas during 2000-2001;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve telephone services/facilities in backward areas of Kerala?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) The State-wise number of new telephone exchanges set up in rural/backward areas of the country, including Kerala, during the last three years is given in Annexure.-I

(b) & (c): For the year 2000-01, the State -wise targets for setting up new telephone exchanges in rural/backward areas, are given in Annexure-ll.

(d) New telephone exchanges are planned to reduce the length of Customer Access Network with a view to improve the service. Poleless Customer Access Network is being implemented in the Circle in a phased manner. RLUs/RSUs are being opened in Backward/ Rural areas to improve the efficiency as well as providing additional facilities.